Agartala (Tripura) into Central Universities and to establish a Central University in Sikkim.

Urdu medium teachers

522. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of trained teachers who can teach through Urdu medium;

(b) whether Government plan to open teachers' training institutes for the Urdu medium teachers;

(c) if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to give training to the teachers for the Urdu medium schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Recruitment of teachers, including those who can teach through Urdu medium is the responsibility of the State Government.

(b) to (d) The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) which is an Apex Body for Teachers Education recognises teacher education courses in Urdu medium run by State Government as well as Non-Government Organisations.

Further, under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan all teachers including Urdu medium school teachers are provided annual in-service teachers training.

National centre to study natural calamities and disasters

523. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether various universities have sought financial assistance to set up national centre to study natural calamities and disaster;

(b) if so, the details of these universities; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a)

According to the information furnished by the university Grants Commission (UGC), no proposal has been received by the UGC for setting up of National Centre to Study Natural Calamities and Disaster.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Classical music from AIR, Bangalore

524. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangalore AIR music channel has joined the DTH platform;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure availability of classical music round the clock from Bangalore AIR through DTH?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) DTH platform of Doordarshan, whose capacity is under expansion, presently does not have spare capacity to carry additional channels. This will enable AIR to broadcast two new Classical Music Channels, one each for Hindustani and Karnatic Music "Amrutha Varshini", the Bangalore Classical Music Channel, is proposed as a part of the new Karnatic Classical Music Channel.

Income from private cable network companies

525. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) The income generated by Government from various private cable network companies during the last one year;

(b) whether Government have any monitoring agency to check and inspect the *modus operandi* of these cable network work companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?